

Amendments To The Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for distributing secure digital content that can be indexed by third party search engines, the method comprising:

(a) generating a text stream from the digital content by stripping all graphic information and punctuation from the digital content;

(b) fragmenting the text stream into multi-word phrases that are each contained in the digital content, wherein words in each multi-word phrase remain arranged in an order that is the same as an order in which those words are arranged in the digital content;

(c) randomly assembling the phrases into a scrambled document such that the scrambled document contains at least nearly all of the words and at least most of the phrases as are contained in the digital content; and

(d) making the scrambled document available to the third party search engines to permit indexing of the scrambled document that will result in an index that is comparable to an index that would result if the third party search engine indexed the digital content.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the fragmenting step (b) comprises parsing the text stream to generate a word stream and fragmenting the word stream into phrases, where each phrase contains at least two words.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein the total number of words in a phrase is random.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein the total number of words in a phrase has a maximum of five words.

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the randomly assembling step (e) comprises forming a stream of phrases and randomly swapping the position of phrases in the phrase stream.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
(e) returning the scrambled document content when the scrambled document is indexed by the third party search engines.

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 6 wherein the returning step (e) comprises examining a user agent parameter to determine whether a search engine or a browser is requesting the scrambled document.

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 6 further comprising:
(f) returning a link to an owner of the secure content when a browser links from the search engine to the indexed scrambled document.

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 8 wherein the scrambled document contains a script routine that loads a web page provided by the secure content owner and the returning a link step (f) comprises running the script routine after the scrambled document content has been loaded into the browser.

10. (Currently amended) The method of claim 9 wherein the returning a link step (f) comprises using the script routine to hide the scrambled text from a user.

11. (Currently amended) Apparatus for distributing secure digital content that can be indexed by third party search engines, the apparatus comprising:

a stripper that generates a text stream from the digital content by stripping all graphic information and punctuation from the digital content;

means for fragmenting the text stream into multi-word phrases that are each contained in the digital content, wherein words in each multi-word phrase remain arranged in an order that is the same as an order in which those words are arranged in the digital content;

a stream assembler that randomly assembles the phrases into a scrambled document such that the scrambled document contains at least nearly all of the words and at least most of the phrases as are contained in the digital content; and

means for making the scrambled document available to the third party search engines to permit indexing of the scrambled document that will result in an index that is comparable to an index that would result if the third party search engine indexed the digital content.

12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the means for fragmenting comprises a parser that parses the text stream to generate a word stream and a fragmenter that fragments the word stream into phrases, where each phrase contains at least two words.

13. (Original) The apparatus of claim 12 wherein the total number of words in a phrase is random.

14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the total number of words in a phrase has a maximum of five words.

15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the stream assembler comprises means for forming a stream of phrases and means for randomly swapping the position of phrases in the phrase stream.

16. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11 further comprising means for returning the scrambled document content when the scrambled document is indexed by the third party search engines.

17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16 wherein the means for returning the scrambled document content comprises means for examining a user agent parameter to determine whether a search engine or a browser is requesting the scrambled document.

18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16 further comprising means for returning a link to an owner of the secure content when a browser links from the search engine to the indexed scrambled document.

19. (Original) The apparatus of claim 18 wherein the scrambled document contains a script routine that loads a web page provided by the secure content owner and the means for returning a link to an owner of the secure content comprises means for running the script routine after the scrambled document content has been loaded into the browser.

20. (Original) The apparatus of claim 19 wherein the script routine comprises means for hiding the scrambled text from a user.

21. (Currently amended) A computer program product for distributing secure digital content that can be indexed by third party search engines, the computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable program code thereon, including:

program code for generating a text stream from the digital content by stripping all graphic information and punctuation from the digital content;

program code for fragmenting the text stream into multi-word phrases that are each contained in the digital content, wherein words in each multi word phrase remain arranged in an order that is the same as an order in which those words are arranged in the digital content;

program code for randomly assembling the phrases into a scrambled document such that the scrambled document contains at least nearly all of the words and at least most of the phrases as are contained in the digital content; and

program code for making the scrambled document available to the third party search engines to permit indexing of the scrambled document that will result in an index that is comparable to an index that would result if the third party search engine indexed the digital content.

22. (Original) The computer program product of claim 21 wherein the program code for fragmenting the text stream comprises program code for parsing the text stream to generate a word stream and program code for fragmenting the word stream into phrases, where each phrase contains at least two words.

23. (Original) The computer program product of claim 22 wherein the total number of words in a phrase is random.

24. (Original) The computer program product of claim 23 wherein the total number of words in a phrase has a maximum of five words.

25. (Original) The computer program product of claim 21 wherein the program code for randomly assembling the phrases into a scrambled document comprises program code for forming a stream of phrases and program code for randomly swapping the position of phrases in the phrase stream.

26. (Original) The computer program product of claim 21 further comprising program code for returning the scrambled document content when the scrambled document is indexed by the third party search engines.

27. (Original) The computer program product of claim 26 wherein the program code for returning the scrambled document content comprises program code for examining a user agent parameter to determine whether a search engine or a browser is requesting the scrambled document.

28. (Original) The computer program product of claim 26 further comprising program code for returning a link to an owner of the secure content when a browser links from the search engine to the indexed scrambled document.

29. (Original) The computer program product of claim 28 wherein the scrambled document contains a script routine that loads a web page provided by the secure content owner and the program code for returning the scrambled document content comprises program code for running the script routine after the scrambled document content has been loaded into the browser.

30. (Original) The computer program product of claim 29 wherein the script routine comprises program code for hiding the scrambled text from a user.